THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. VI. RALEIGH, THURSDAY, DEC. 22, 1864. NO. 35

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, Dec. 21, 1864.

The Senate met at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Mason.

The reading of the Journal of yesterday was dispensed with.

The petition of Dick, a slave, praying to be allowed to hire his time, was taken up, and after some discussion, was laid upon the table.

On motion of Mr. McCorkle, the Committee on Claims was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Daniel Dudley, praying relief for himself and family.

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Mr. Graham, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported favorably on the resolution of Senate to Capt. Pegram and his command, which was ordered to be printed

DAILY PROGRESS.

Who desire to have the Progress sent to their homes, after the suspension of the present session, are invited to call at [illegible] and their address. We intend that those who have used it during the session will cordially support it in its attempts under circumstances. It may be found on the front, and great reliable war news, besides local and State matters, sketches, &c. In addition and on the subject of peace it will be, hereafter, what it has been heretofore.

Daily paper $15 for three months, $25 for two months; Weekly paper $5 for three months and $10 for six months.

Wilmington.

It is feared that the long looked for attack is upon us and that Wilmington is about to feel the [illegible] which has been so long threatened. It is reported that a formidable fleet has sailed from Fortress Monroe, and that a portion of it has appeared off the mouth of Cape Fear. We hear of no troops having been landed at any point, but there are many rumors of the movements of the enemy. It may be that the appearance of this fleet below Wilmington is only intended as a feint and that the real destination is further South, to co-operate with Sherman in his operations against Savannah and Charleston. Be this as it may, however, nothing will be lost by preparation, and it behooves all good citizens to rally to the defence of their soil and be prepared for the worst that can befall us.

The Wilmington *Journal* of Tuesday expresses the opinion that an attack will not be immediately made on that place, but we suppose the fleet had not appeared before the defences at the mouth of the river when the article alluded to was written. Our works around Wilmington and at the mouth of the river are said to be strong, and no great fears are entertained concerning the naval operations of the enemy; and if all men able to do service report promptly for duty confidence is felt that any land force that may be brought against us can be easily checked and driven back.

As the Yankee troops for this expedition are under Butler and Weitzel, the force is doubtless largely composed of negroes, from whom but little fighting is to be expected.

A day or two will remove all doubt and enable us to state, positively, whether the blow is to fall upon Wilmington or some point farther South. While we would urge that every preparation be made to defend Wilmington, we shall not be surprised to hear, at any time, that the whole expedition is moving southward.

The Governor has issued the following Proclamation calling upon all men fit for service to rally to the defence of the State:

BY THE GOVERNOR OF NORTH CAROLINA.—A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, the long expected attack upon our only remaining seaport is now about to be made, and our State is also likely to be invaded at other points by an enemy to whom mercy and civilization are alike unknown and unregarded; and whereas all the organized forces of the State already ordered to the front may still be insufficient to roll back the tide which threatens us with worse than death, and to drive from our doors a fate horrible to contemplate:

Now, therefore, I, Zebulon B. Vance, Governor of the State of North Carolina, relying upon the loyalty and patriotism of the citizens, do by this proclamation, commanding and adjuring all good people, whether by law subject to military duty or not, who are able to stand behind breastworks and fire a musket, of all ages and conditions, to rally at once to the defence of their country and her capital, Wilmington. And I do appeal to every man who has the spirit of a freeman in his bosom, who has a spark of the fire or a drop of the blood of the heroes of the great army of the great captain in the south, to come, and come at once. The man who hangs back now becomes the law does not compel him to do it, and [illegible] himself with the sneak shirk and mean spirited plea that he can "do more useful at home," will find it hard to make us believe that he [illegible] the name of conscientious or dignity. The country needs their help now, and that help must be given in this hour of distress or their manhood [illegible] only fitted for the [illegible] punishment with other [illegible] and [illegible] blood. For a few days all [illegible] are needed at the front, and especially do we [illegible] the example of all those who heretofore posted for the fray, while it was yet at a distance, and scoffed the battle while it was yet afar off. Let every man physically able, then, hurry with his blanket to Wilmington, where arms and rations will be furnished, and let those left behind mount themselves and protect their counties, looking after the women and children and preserving order. Your Governor will make you at the front and will share [illegible] and the worst.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State. Done at our city of Raleigh, on the 20th day of December, 1864.

By the Governor: ZEBULON B. VANCE.

M. S. Somarm, Private Secretary.

Raleigh, Dec. 21, 1864.

ARMY AND NAVY MESSENGER.—This paper, which is published by the Evangelical Tract Society, Petersburg, after a suspension of several months, has reappeared under the editorial management of Rev. W. B. Wallace, for several years postmaster of the *Christian Sun*. The Messenger contains 16 columns of reading matter, and the "number before us is gotten up with much taste and filled with attractive religious and miscellaneous articles. We wish friend Wallace a brilliant career in his new field of labor.

DRUGGISTS MUST publish their own [illegible] by advertising in the Progress.

It is the desire of Congress that yesterday the Resolutions of thanks to Sherman and his army, after the Assembly shall meet again. We understand that the original resolutions have been slightly amended by Colonel C., not so as to affect their significance, however. The very short interval between the time at which their fate in the Senate became known and the time of the present session of the Assembly precluded their consideration at an earlier date than that indicated. We but participate in a general emotion in looking forward to the date when these resolutions are to be acted on with great unanimity.

In the meanwhile we will congratulate ourselves upon the prestige with which they come before the House of Commons. Being introduced by the gallant gentleman from Beaufort, whose person bears upon it the scars of painful and dangerous wounds gotten in the present war and who was a member of the army in the field from April, 1861, until the past Fall, no whispers can be indulged in as to their loyalty.—Those of our readers who have perused Colonel Carter's speech upon the *habeas corpus* question, as reported in this paper during the present session, will want no assurance from us that the topics arising from the Resolutions now introduced by him will be discussed with candor, ability and eloquence. The Senators who so distinguished themselves in the debate of last Tuesday must look to their laurels. Colonel Carter is certainly a very impressive speaker, but among his distinguishing traits we particularly thank him for his courage and candor. We shall be greatly disappointed if he is not to do the State invaluable service in the crisis before it.

Colonel Carter is understood to be a warm personal and political friend of Gov. Vance! The whole matter deserves consideration.

Legislative Summary.

The Governor will be inaugurated at 2 o'clock this evening, as ordered yesterday.

The Revenue Bill, after sundry amendments, passed its final reading in the Senate and was sent back to the House for its concurrence.

The Senate passed a bill to consolidate the companies of the Home Guard, which adds to the exemptions county trustees, blacksmiths, shoemakers, tanners, millers and hatters.

CITY AND STATE NEWS.

FIRE IN WILMINGTON.—The *Journal* of Tuesday says:

A fire broke out about 10 o'clock last night in the second story, over the cooking department, of Mr. B. D. Merrill's "Saloon" on Front Street near Market. Through the energetic exertions of the firemen and the citizens the fire was prevented from spreading beyond that portion of the building in which it originated, the good work of which was almost entirely consumed.—The building was considerably damaged, and a large amount of crockery and other articles destroyed. Mr. M. estimates his loss at $15,000 to $20,000. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

SHOT BY BUSHWHACKERS.—The Iredell Express of this week says:

We are sorry to learn that three of the Home Guards, who are now stationed at Piedmont Springs, in Burke county, were painfully wounded during the early part of last week—one supposed to be mortally. Mr. Bradly, of this county. They were out scouting, and stopping to eat breakfast in a ravine, about 8 o'clock in the morning, were fired upon by bushwhackers from the brow of a hill.

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA THEATRE.—The Asheville *News* of the 15th says:

Information of a reliable character was received here yesterday that Burbridge, with 7,000 men, was advancing up through East Tennessee by one route, and Stoneman, with 3000, by another. Kirk, with 800 men, was at Mr. Allen's some ten miles below the Warm Springs, aiming for this section. Burbridge and Stoneman are supposed to be moving on the Saltworks.

General Vaughn fell back from Greeneville Tuesday morning.

The same paper says:

Major Robert L. Coleman, of Col. Palmer's command, was shot through the shoulder, by a bushwhacker, the day last week, a few miles below Paint Rock, in Tennessee. It is a severe and painful wound, but we are gratified to learn, not regarded as dangerous. Major Coleman is too valuable a man to be "taken off" by a bushwhacker, and we trust he may live to "fight his battles o'er," long after peace has spread her gentle wings over our now distracted country.

THE WAKE HOME GUARDS.—The *Confederate* says:

We understand the Company of third class Home Guards from this county, now on duty, has been highly complimented by the General in command, for the fine appearance of the men, its discipline and the fine spirit manifested. There are nearly fifty men in the company, and the officers in command are as follows: Captain, Wm H. Finch; 1st Lieut., J. W. Holden; 2d Lt., Thos. D. Sledge; Jr. 2d Lt. J. M. Liles.

The Northern papers are glorying over another great victory in Tennessee, but we shall not be surprised to hear that it is another Franklin affair, or which somehow the Yankees had to fall back to save their army. Owing to interruptions and breaks in the railroads it may be sometime before we can hear from Hood.

The Richmond mails failed again yesterday. We have received no papers from either Richmond or Petersburg since Saturday last.

[illegible] Carolina coast.

The Wilmington *Journal* of Tuesday says:

"We have expressed our opinion more than once that it is the interest of the enemy to come to this place. They themselves, have expressed the same opinion, but they have also expressed the opinion that without a pretty strong land force, a mere naval expedition would fail. This we think, is more than likely, at least in reference to us, and we believe, to most other people.

The question now is, Are the enemy's forces at present, or during the present winter of 1864, coming to this point, or are they going to attack Wilmington?

Of course it is impossible for us to say. We cannot penetrate the secret councils of anybody, but at the same time we have a right to form and express our own opinions, and, without feeling ourselves in any danger of being [illegible] believe that people would attach about as much, and no more importance to our opinions than they [illegible] (in this case) and opinions of other people. This being the case, we give our opinion for what it may be worth. Candidly, we do not think it probable that Wilmington will be attacked within the present year, which is now nearly at an end. We may be mistaken, but we think that the result will show that we are not. If Savannah falls, then Wilmington may be in doubt. Unless Savannah does fall, we confess that we have no very serious apprehensions, and even then we hardly think that Wilmington will be gone."

We learn that official information has been received here that there is a fleet off the mouth of Cape Fear. We hope the bad weather may increase until they are all sent to the bottom.

AFFAIRS IN MISSISSIPPI.

MERIDIAN, December 10.—Authentic information has been received that the advance of Gen. Davidson's raiding column from Baton Rouge passed through Augusta, Perry County, Mississippi, on Saturday, for Mobile. Warm work is expected on Monday or Tuesday next.

The following is a copy of an official dispatch received at headquarters in Mobile:

"On the first of December, Colonel Griffith engaged the enemy near Yazoo City, killing seventeen, wounding five and capturing a lieutenant and twenty men. Our loss one killed and seven wounded. The enemy was driven back to Yazoo City.

Dorsey, Yazoo County, December 2.—The fight yesterday was at Concord Church, on the Yazoo City and Vicksburg Roads. The Yankee force was five regiments. They were completely routed. Eighteen dead counted, besides wounded. Twenty-three prisoners were captured, including a lieutenant. They carried away most of their wounded. Their entire loss is between seventy-five and one hundred. Our loss one killed and six wounded. A large quantity of arms and equipments and several horses were captured.

OFFICIAL ORDERS—PUBLISHED GRATIS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA,
War Department,
Bureau of Conscription,
Richmond, Va., Dec. 9, 1864.

Circular No. 25.

Generals commanding reserves in the respective States will proceed, forthwith, and with the utmost vigor, to organize for "continuous local service, to be mustered in for the war," companies to consist of all men found fit for light duty, and not otherwise assigned, and actually employed, of men transferred to the invalid corps, and found fit for the duties hereinafter indicated, and such men as temporarily disabled for field service. The men of this latter class, when found ready for the field, to be forthwith restored to their proper command.

These companies to consist of not less than sixty men, and officers of the Reserve Corps will be assigned by the Generals commanding to a thorough inspection of them, and the muster rolls forwarded to this Bureau.

Upon their reception the Secretary of War will assign officers to the command of the companies.

It is the purpose of the War Department to assign these companies to duty as guards at [illegible]

Headquarters Reserves, N. C.,
Raleigh, Dec. 14, 1864.

General Orders, No. 21.

I. Major H. L. Harper, Quartermaster P. A. C. S., having [illegible] to Special Orders No. [illegible], A. & I. G. O., current series, is assigned to duty as Quartermaster, Reserves of N. C., and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

II. All officers in command of Reserves will at once make requisitions for clothing, and estimate for funds for the payment of their commands, forwarding them to Major Harper at Raleigh.

By command of Brig. Gen. Holmes:
JOHN W. HINSDALE,
Asst't Adj't Gen'l.

RECRUITING.—The Richmond correspondent of the Augusta *Chronicle* gives the following spirited episode in life at the Confederate Capital. It is certainly a very striking illustration of the pestilent influences in Congress.

"Speaking about Congress reminds me of a curious scene that occurred to-day in the lobby of the House of Representatives. It appears that one of the honorable members from Missouri—in years the story—was accosted by a lady of this city of blowing rather unchivalrously of her; and this member, the lady in question proceeded to the capitol, armed with one or more horsewhips, for the purpose of securing satisfaction by a castigation of the indiscreet gentleman. The time chosen by the lady—she is quite handsome, and somewhat gay-spoken in manner—for the infliction of the punishment was when the business of the House was well under way, and quite a large gathering present. As I gather the particulars, it appears that she had the gentleman called into the lobby and then, without allowing time for explanations, proceeded to horsewhip him soundly, which she continued to do until bystanders interfered and put a stop to the most unladylike proceeding.

Mr. [illegible] I understand, denies all knowledge of any cause of complaint on the ladies part, and as the lady is said to be somewhat non compos mentis, the whole affair is looked upon as a "muddle" on the part of the fair belligerent. The interest of the occasion is heightened by the fact that to-day's dispatch contains a "Personal" from "L. D., Augusta, Ga.," to the lady in question, in which it is stated that a large legacy has been left her by a creditor of her father's. I mention no names in this connection, and merely give the affair as descriptive of every day life in the Capital.

GALLANTRY IN BLOOM.—The Richmond *Examiner* says of Grant:

To him war is analogous to the game of faro. Persons who have seen him playing at the latter game say the rule is to light a cigar, select two or three cards and put down his money on them, to remain whatever they win or lose, until the last card is gone. As soon as his purse is absolutely empty he rises from his chair, lights a fresh cigar, takes a big drink of brandy and water, and walks out of the gambling hall as cool and unconcerned as though nothing had happened. But he never leaves the table while there is a dollar in his pockets. Were Gen. Grant's base in California, war will be his ruin yet, if Lee watches his game well. Men are no more to him than so many "chips," and all our commanding general has to do is to put no limit on his game and he will soon sacrifice his last man as readily as he has done his last cent a thousand times at faro. What commiseration does he feel for the mutilated privates under his command? Is he not to be the great Lieutenant General commanding all the armies of the United States, and must he not be amused?

MAJORITY REPORT.

On resolutions No. 4, entitled, "Resolutions to initiate negotiations for an honorable peace."

The majority of the "Joint Select Committee of the two Houses," to which were referred Senate Resolutions No. 4 entitled "Resolutions to initiate negotiations for an honorable peace," report the same back to the Senate without amendment, and recommend that they pass.

The majority of the Committee believe, that while every effort is being made to increase and strengthen the army by the most severe conscription, and by the employment of all men, and means, those extreme requirements should be accompanied by some manifestation of an effort and desire to secure an honorable peace by all other legitimate measures.

Commissioners heretofore (indeed have) been refused by the United States upon the pretext, that their reception would imply a recognition of the Confederate Government, or belligerency, and that in case of a failure to agree upon a treaty, such recognition would nevertheless stand. These objections seek to remove this objection, by appointing Commissioners on the part of the States, whose civil existence and authority have never been denied; but at the same time, to make their tender and all powers dependent on the action and adoption of the President. It is not proposed that these Commissioners derive any powers from the States, but only that they be appointed by the President for a Peace Conference—he giving to them such powers and instructions as he may deem necessary and proper.

JOHN POOL, Ch'm'n.
A. G. OWLEY,
D. F. CALDWELL.

[illegible]

Headquarters Reserves, N. C.,
Raleigh, Dec. 14, 1864.

General Order, No. 20.

In pursuance of General Orders No. [illegible], A. & I. G. O., current series, Capt. [illegible] Assistant Quartermaster, is assigned to duty as Quartermaster, Reserves of N. C., and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

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